

Short Notes.

ON THE OCCURRENCE OF *MUS. SURIFER*, G. S. MILLER, IN PERAK.

In the Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington, vol. xiii, April 21, 1900, Mr. Gerrit S. Miller, of the U. S. National Museum, describes no less than seven new species of Rats collected in 1899 by Dr. W. L. Abbott in the mountains of Trong, a small Siamese State on the west side of the Peninsula, about 500 miles north of Singapore.

This paper should not be overlooked by students of the smaller Malayan mammals, and Mr. Miller would probably kindly supply any one interested in the subject with a copy on application. The new rats described are *Mus vociferans*, *M. ferreocanus*, *M. validus*, *M. cremoriventer*, *M. asper*, *M. pellax*, and *M. surifer*. I am able to record the last of these new species from the Larut Hills, Perak, and it is probable that at least some of the others follow the main range down the Peninsula. *Mus. surifer* was obtained by Dr. Abbott in February 1899. I first met with it in February 1898, catching a single example in a steel trap near the Hut, Maxwell's Hill. Unfortunately the hinder portion of the specimen had been eaten by some small carnivorous creature, and, after noting its appearance I threw it away. Last year on revisiting the hills I remembered this rat and succeeded in trapping a specimen alive. It was a charmingly pretty and fearless little creature, quite tame from the time of capture, and I was overruled by feminine influence into keeping it alive, with the result that it escaped eventually in Kwala Lumpur! At the same time I got a very damaged specimen from same coolies, and sent it in spirit to Mr. Oldfield Thomas, who identified it as the newly described *M. surifer*.

Mr. Miller's paper above referred to is a good example of the exceedingly thorough and careful work of the new school of American mammalogists.

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